

Blossom Group

What Happens If a Coroner Gets Involved

A coroner is an independent official who investigates certain deaths. They get involved when a death is

- Sudden or unexpected
- Unexplained or suspicious
- Due to an accident or injury
- Happens in police custody or prison
- The person wasn't seen by a doctor recently

What You Need to Know

1. The death is reported to the coroner

This is usually done by a doctor, hospital, or the police. You don't have to do this yourself.

2. The coroner decides what to do

They might:

- Approve the cause of death and let it be registered as normal
- Order a post-mortem (medical exam) to find out what happened
- Open an inquest (a legal investigation), especially if the death is complex or involves public interest

3. You may have to wait

If there's a post-mortem or inquest, there may be a delay in the funeral and registering the death. The coroner will tell you when you can have the funeral.

4. You'll be kept informed

Coroner's officers will speak to the next of kin and explain what's going on. You can ask questions at any time.

Key Points:

- You don't need to arrange or pay for the post-mortem.
- If there's an inquest, it may take weeks or months, but you'll get updates.
- The death can't be registered until the coroner finishes their part. They'll issue paperwork when it's ready.